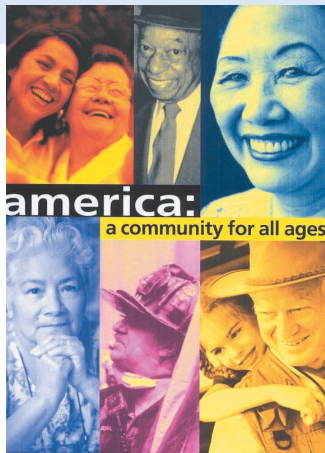


Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis



REPORTS TO SENIORS



SOLIS COMMEMORATES OLDER AMERICANS MONTH!

This year's theme, "*America: A Community for All Ages*," was selected by the

Department of Health and Human Services in recognition of the national community in which we live and in tribute to the elders of our families who represent the strength of our nation. Older Americans provide us with love and guidance, and they set the standards by which our families and our children's families live their lives as responsible citizens of our great nation.



Congresswoman Solis discusses her role in the Older Americans Caucus with Esperanza "Hope" Mendoza, who knitted the American flag in the background.

Hilda L. Solis

CONGRESSWOMAN HILDA L. SOLIS

RE

Visit Your Local Senior Centers to . . .

Get assistance with Medicare benefits, Social Security and other services.

El Monte Jack Crippen Multipurpose Senior Center

3120 N. Tyler Ave.
El Monte, CA 91731
Tel: (626) 580-2210

Rosemead Community Center

3936 N. Muscatel Ave.
Rosemead, CA 91770
Tel: (626) 569-2251

Baldwin Park Julia McNeill Senior Center

4100 Baldwin Park Blvd.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
Tel: (626) 813-5245 ext. 323

Taiwanese Area Agency on Aging

3711 Cogswell, Suite 116
El Monte, CA 91732
Tel: (626) 443-2470

Centro Maravilla Senior Service Center

4716 César E. Chávez Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90022
Tel: (323) 260-2805

South El Monte Senior Center

1556 Central Ave.
South El Monte, CA 91733
Tel: (626) 448-0131

Azusa Senior Center

740 N. Dalton Ave.
Azusa, CA 91702
Tel: (626) 812-5204

Alhambra Joslyn Senior Center

210 N. Chapel Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
Tel: (626) 570-5056

Sunol Center

133 N. Sunol Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90063
Tel: (323) 260-2808

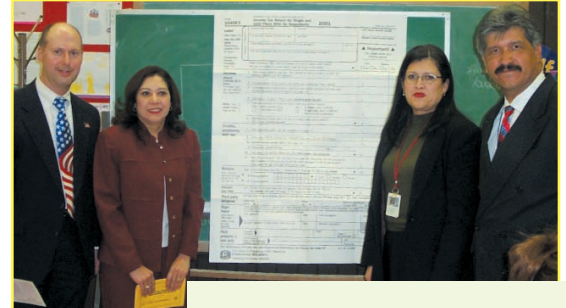
Langley Senior Center

400 W. Emerson Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754
Tel: (626) 307-1395

Tax Preparation Events

Congresswoman Solis hosted two Tax Preparation Night Seminars this past March. The two events drew more than 150 people, educated residents on their rights and informed many about tax saving deductions and credits. Over 100 low-income families and seniors had their taxes filed for free.

In addition, the events helped residents who did not have Social Security numbers apply for Tax Identification Numbers.



Congresswoman Solis discusses tax issues with Garry Gilbert, Louisa Andrade and Marcelo Gomez during one of the tax preparation workshops.

Prevent Fraud Aimed at Seniors!

Congresswoman Solis participated in a senior Scam Stoppers Seminar hosted by the City of Monterey Park and the Contractors State License Board (CSLB). Representatives from the Bureau of Automotive Repair, the Medical Board, AARP and the Monterey Park Police Department discussed scams that unscrupulous individuals use to target senior citizens. Experts agree that

education is the key to stopping fraud against seniors. ***For more information contact CSLB at 1-800-321-2752 or the L.A. District Attorney Consumer Protection Division at (213) 580-3273.***



Congresswoman Solis receives a certificate of appreciation for her work in Congress to prevent senior fraud from the City of Monterey Park.

REPORTS TO SENIORS



Free Booklets About Medicare

The Medicare handbook gives basic facts about the Medicare program, Medicare health plan choices and other insurance and ways to pay health care costs. The handbook includes a list of phone numbers to call if you need help.

Call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227, TTY/TDD: 1-877-486-2048)** for the hearing and speech impaired) and ask for a free copy.

Or, go to www.medicare.gov on the Web and select “Publications.”

You can read, print or order these booklets in English or Spanish.

**Congresswoman Solis
presents an American
flag flown over the
Capitol at the Rosemead
Zapopan Senior Center.**



Social Security Administration Offers Benefit Calculators Online

The Social Security calculators are designed to help you explore your potential benefit amounts using different retirement dates and different levels of potential future earnings. The calculators will show your estimated retirement benefits as well as an estimate of disability and survivor benefit amounts on your record if something were to happen to you.

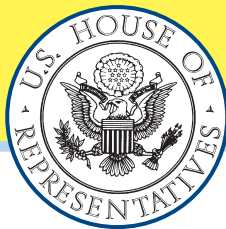
Visit <http://www.ssa.gov/planners/calculators.htm>

You may also call Social Security's toll-free number, **1-800-772-1213**, or contact the Social Security office in El Monte, CA at: 3380 Flair Drive, El Monte, CA 91731, **Tel: (626) 288-1118, TTY: 1-800-325-0778.**

Identity Theft

Protect Your Social Security Number

Identity theft occurs when a criminal uses another person's personal information to take on that person's identity. Identity theft is much more than misuse of a Social Security number—it can also include credit card and mail fraud. To report fraud, you can call the Social Security Administration's Fraud Hotline at **1-800-269-0271**, or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) ID Theft Hotline at **1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).**



Washington Update

Congresswoman Solis is working to . . .

✓ **Provide Affordable Drug Benefits for Medicare**

Medicare should include a prescription drug benefit that is affordable and easy to use. Congresswoman Solis supports the Medicare Extension of Drugs to Seniors (MEDS) Act, (H.R. 1512) which would create such a benefit. With prescription drug costs rising at twice the rate of inflation for the 50 most heavily-prescribed drugs for seniors, it is crucial that seniors get some relief.

✓ **Accurately Calculate the Social Security Cost-Of-Living Adjustment**

Social Security's Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA) does not accurately reflect the changes in prices for goods and services used by senior citizens in our community. Congresswoman Solis supports the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers Act, (H.R. 2035) which would take rising medical care costs into consideration when calculating the COLA. This is especially important with medical care costs rising at more than 4.5 percent.

✓ **Protect Social Security**

All Americans who work hard and play by the rules must be assured that their years of hard work will be rewarded when they retire, not punished with risk and insecurity. Congresswoman Solis urged President Bush to maintain Social Security's successful underlying principle — a guarantee of financial stability. Privatizing Social Security will hurt seniors, women and others who earn the least and rely the most on Social Security for retirement. Congresswoman Solis is not willing to risk our seniors' retirement income on a fiscally irresponsible privatization plan.

***Congresswoman Solis' Offices
Are Here to Serve You***

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(323) 307-9906 FAX

Washington, D.C.

1641 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5464
(202) 225-5467 FAX

M.C.
PRSRT STD